



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/864,268	05/25/2001	Takuma Sudo	1046.1254	3194

21171 7590 05/16/2003

STAAS & HALSEY LLP  
700 11TH STREET, NW  
SUITE 500  
WASHINGTON, DC 20001

EXAMINER

YANG, RYAN R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2672

DATE MAILED: 05/16/2003

3

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/864,268

Applicant(s)

SUDO ET AL.

Examiner

Ryan R Yang

Art Unit

2672

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-33 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 11, 12, 22, 23 and 33 are independent claims. This action is non-final.
2. This application claims foreign priority dated 12/22/2000.
3. The present title of the invention is "Event-for-change oriented information display method and information processing system using the same method".

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1–4, 10, 12-15, 21, 23-26 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Duke (6,407,749).

As per claim 1, Duke discloses an information display method comprising:

displaying information in a predetermined display area (Figure 2A 23);

detecting a manipulation of changing a display block of the information displayed in the display area (Figure 3 40 "step 40 then determines, according to the state of an

alternating software zoom toggle, whether viewport 28 will zoom out by zoom-out factor 14 or zoom in by zoom-in factor 15", column 5, line 11-14); and

displaying the information by changing an attribute in accordance with the detection of the changing manipulation (Figure 2A 28).

6. As per claim 2, Duke demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 1, supra, and further discloses wherein the attribute is a display size of each of elements structuring the information, or a pitch between the elements structuring the information (Figure 2A and Figure 3 40 where everything within viewport 28 is either zoomed in or zoomed out).

7. As per claim 3, Duke demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of claim 2, supra, and further discloses wherein the display size or the pitch defined as the attribute is scaled down smaller than in a normal display state for displaying the information in the predetermined display area (Figure 2A and Figure 3 40 where everything within viewport 28 is either **zoomed in** or zoomed out according to scale).

8. As per claim 4, Duke demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 1, supra, and further discloses wherein the information is displayed in a way that changes the attribute in a direction of changing the display block (Figure 2B 24 where the size changes in the direction of changing the display block).

9. As per claim 10, Duke demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 1, supra, and further discloses wherein the information is text information, and the structuring elements are characters of the text information (Figure 2A 24 wherein the structuring elements are characters of the text information).

10. As per claim 12, Duke discloses an information processing system comprising:  
a display control unit displaying processing target information in a predetermined display area (Figure 1 16 for display control and Figure 2A 23 for display area);  
a detection unit detecting a manipulation of changing a display block of the information displayed in the display area (Figure 3 40 "step 40 then determines, according to the state of an alternating software zoom toggle, whether viewport 28 will zoom out by zoom-out factor 14 or zoom in by zoom-in factor 15", column 5, line 11-14);  
and

a display information control unit getting the information displayed in the display area by changing an attribute in accordance with the detection of the changing manipulation (Figure 2A 28).

11. As per claim 13, Duke demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 12, supra, and further discloses wherein the attribute is a display size of each of elements structuring the information, or a pitch between the elements structuring the information (Figure 2A and Figure 3 40 where everything within viewport 28 is either zoomed in or zoomed out).

12. As per claim 14, Duke demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of dependent claim 13, supra, and further discloses said display information control unit scales down the display size or the pitch defined as the attribute smaller than in a normal display state for displaying the information in the predetermined display area (Figure 2A and Figure 3 40 where everything within viewport 28 is either **zoomed in** or zoomed out according to scale).

13. As per claim 15, Duke demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 12, supra, and further discloses said display information control unit gets the information displayed in a way that changes the attribute in a direction of changing the display block (Figure 2B 24 where the size changes in the direction of changing the display block).

14. As per claim 21, Duke demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 12, supra, and further discloses wherein the information is text information, and the structuring elements are characters of the text information (Figure 2A 24 wherein the structuring elements are characters of the text information).

15. As per claim 23, Duke discloses a storage medium readable by a machine (Figure 1 11), tangible embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps comprising:

displaying information in a predetermined display area (Figure 2A 23);

detecting a manipulation of changing a display block of the information displayed in the display area (Figure 3 40 "step 40 then determines, according to the state of an alternating software zoom toggle, whether viewport 28 will zoom out by zoom-out factor 14 or zoom in by zoom-in factor 15", column 5, line 11-14); and

displaying the information by changing an attribute in accordance with the detection of the changing manipulation (Figure 2A 28).

16. As per claim 24, Duke demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 23, supra, and further discloses wherein the attribute is a display size of each of elements structuring the information, or a pitch between the elements

structuring the information (Figure 2A and Figure 3 40 where everything within viewport 28 is either zoomed in or zoomed out).

17. As per claim 25, Duke demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of dependent claim 24, supra, and further discloses wherein the display size or the pitch defined as the attribute is scaled down smaller than in a normal display state for displaying the information in the predetermined display area (Figure 2A and Figure 3 40 where everything within viewport 28 is either **zoomed in** or zoomed out according to scale).

18. As per claim 26, Duke demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 23, supra, and further discloses wherein the information is displayed in a way that changes the attribute in a direction of changing the display block (Figure 2B 24 wherein the size changes in the direction of changing the display block).

19. As per claim 32, Duke demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 23, supra, and further discloses wherein the information is text information, and the structuring elements are characters of the text information (Figure 2A 24 wherein the structuring elements are characters of the text information).

20. Claims 1-2, 4-8, 12-13, 15-19, 23-24 and 26-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Robertson et al. (5,339,390).

21. As per claim 1, Robertson et al., hereinafter Robertson, discloses an information display method comprising:

displaying information in a predetermined display area (Figure 1A 10);

detecting a manipulation of changing a display block of the information displayed in the display area (Figure 4 152); and

displaying the information by changing an attribute in accordance with the detection of the changing manipulation (Figure 4 160, 162 and 164 wherein the stretching process is performed).

22. As per claim 2, Robertson demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 1, supra, and further discloses wherein the attribute is a display size of each of elements structuring the information, or a pitch between the elements structuring the information (Figure 4 where stretching is changing of display size of each node).

23. As per claim 4, Robertson demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 1, supra, and further discloses wherein the information is displayed in a way that changes the attribute in a direction of changing the display block (Figure 4 164 wherein the direction of stretching changes the attribute direction).

24. As per claim 5, Robertson demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of dependent claim 2, supra, and further discloses the information is text information, the structuring elements are characters of the text information ("Text associated with the selected node and related nodes is also displayed in their display objects", column 10, line 66-69), and during the changing manipulation, the text information is displayed in different character sizes or at different character pitches between one or more specified lines within the display area and lines other than the specified lines, or between one or more specified columns within the display area and



Art Unit: 2672

columns other than the specified columns, or between specified segments in the display area and a region excluding the specified segments (Figure 1A 22 and 24 since the planes are in perspective, the text are displayed in different character sizes).

25. As per claim 6, Robertson demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 1, supra, and further discloses during the changing manipulation, the information is displayed in a way that sets a different attribute corresponding to a position in the display area (Figure 1A 22 and 24 since the planes are in perspective, the text are displayed in different character sizes corresponding to a position in the display area).

26. As per claim 7, Robertson demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 1, supra, and further discloses during the changing manipulation, the information with the attribute changed is displayed in a part within the predetermined display area, and the information is displayed with a different attribute in other part within the display area (Figure 1A 20, 22 and 24 where the size changes conformed to the perspective plane).

27. As per claim 8, Robertson demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 1, supra, and further discloses during the changing manipulation, the information with the attribute changed is displayed in the predetermined display area, and the information is displayed with a different attribute in a display area different from the former display area (Figure 1A 20, 22 and 24 where the size changes conforming to the perspective plane, and text on planes 20, 22 and 24 are different from each other).

Art Unit: 2672

28. As per claim 12, Robertson discloses an information processing system comprising:

a display control unit displaying processing target information in a predetermined display area (Figure 1A 10);

a detection unit detecting a manipulation of changing a display block of the information displayed in the display area (Figure 4 152); and

a display information control unit getting the information displayed in the display area by changing an attribute in accordance with the detection of the changing manipulation (Figure 4 160, 162 and 164 wherein the stretching process is performed).

29. As per claim 13, Robertson demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 12, supra, and further discloses wherein the attribute is a display size of each of elements structuring the information, or a pitch between the elements structuring the information (Figure 4 wherein stretching is changing of display size of each of elements structuring the information).

30. As per claim 15, Robertson demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 12, supra, and further discloses said display information control unit gets the information displayed in a way that changes the attribute in a direction of changing the display block (Figure 4 164 wherein the size changes in the direction of changing the display block).

31. As per claim 16, Robertson demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of dependent claim 15, supra, and further discloses the information is text information, the structuring elements are characters of the text information ("Text

associated with the selected node and related nodes is also displayed in their display objects", column 10, line 66-69), and

said display information control unit, during the changing manipulation, gets the text information displayed in different character sizes or at different character pitches between one or more specified lines within the display area and lines other than the specified lines, or between one or more specified columns within the display area and columns other than the specified columns, or between specified segments in the display area and a region excluding the specified segments (Figure 1A 22 and 24 since the planes are in perspective, the text are displayed in different character sized).

32. As per claim 17, Robertson demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 12, supra, and further discloses said display information control unit, during the changing manipulation, gets the information displayed in a way that sets a different attribute corresponding to a position in the display area (Figure 1A 22 and 24 since the planes are in perspective, the text are displayed in different character sizes corresponding to a position in the display area).

33. As per claim 18, Robertson demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 12, supra, and further discloses said display information control unit, during the changing manipulation, gets the information with the changed attribute displayed in a part within the predetermined display area, and gets the information displayed with a different attribute in other part within the display area (Figure 1A 20, 22 and 24 where the size changes conformed to the perspective plane).

34. As per claim 19, Robertson demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 12, supra, and further discloses said display information control unit, during the changing manipulation, gets the information with the changed attribute displayed in the predetermined display area, and gets the information displayed with a different attribute in a display area different from the former display area (Figure 1A 20, 22 and 24 where the size changes conforming to the perspective plane, and text on planes 20, 22 and 24 are different from each other).

35. As per claim 23, Robertson discloses a storage medium readable by a machine (Figure 8 310), tangible embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps comprising:

displaying information in a predetermined display area (Figure 1A 10);

detecting a manipulation of changing a display block of the information displayed in the display area (Figure 4 152); and

displaying the information by changing an attribute in accordance with the detection of the changing manipulation (Figure 4 160, 162 and 164 wherein the stretching process is performed).

36. As per claim 24, Robertson demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 23, supra, and further discloses wherein the attribute is a display size of each of elements structuring the information, or a pitch between the elements structuring the information (Figure 4 wherein stretching is changing of size).

37. As per claim 26, Robertson demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 23, supra, and further discloses wherein the information

is displayed in a way that changes the attribute in a direction of changing the display block (Figure 4 164 wherein the direction of stretching changes the attribute direction).

38. As per claim 27, Robertson demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of dependent claim 24, supra, and further discloses wherein the information is text information, the structuring elements are characters of the text information ("Text associated with the selected node and related nodes is also displayed in their display objects", column 10, line 66-69), and

during the changing manipulation, the text information is displayed in different character sizes or at different character pitches between one or more specified lines within the display area and lines other than the specified lines, or between one or more specified columns within the display area and columns other than the specified columns, or between specified segments in the display area and a region excluding the specified segments (Figure 1A 22 and 24 since the planes are in perspective, the text are displayed in different character sized).

39. As per claim 28, Robertson demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 23, supra, and further discloses during the changing manipulation, the information is displayed in a way that sets a different attribute corresponding to a position in the display area (Figure 1A 22 and 24 since the planes are in perspective, the text are displayed in different character sizes corresponding to a position in the display area).

40. As per claim 29, Robertson demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 23, supra, and further discloses during the changing

Art Unit: 2672

manipulation, the information with the attribute changed is displayed in a part within the predetermined display area, and the information is displayed with a different attribute in other part within the display area (Figure 1A 20, 22 and 24 where the size changes conformed to the perspective plane).

41. As per claim 30, Robertson demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 23, supra, and further discloses during the changing manipulation, the information with the attribute changed is displayed in the predetermined display area, and the information is displayed with a different attribute in a display area different from the former display area (Figure 1A 20, 22 and 24 where the size changes conforming to the perspective plane, and text on planes 20, 22 and 24 are different from each other).

42. Claims 1, 9, 12, 20, 23 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Goto et al. (5,434,591).

As per claim 1, Goto et al., hereinafter Goto, discloses an information display method comprising:

- displaying information in a predetermined display area (Figure 3 1);
- detecting a manipulation of changing a display block of the information displayed in the display area (Figure 3 21 Display Command Data Input & Interpret); and
- displaying the information by changing an attribute in accordance with the detection of the changing manipulation (Figure 3 22 Executing Co-Ordinate Convert and 23 Executing Dots Convert).

43. As per claim 9, Goto demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 1, *supra*, and further discloses wherein the attribute is set based on a speed at which the display block is changed ("the size of a pattern is enlarged or reduced in accordance with the scrolling speed", column 9, line 56-57).

44. As per claim 12, Goto discloses an information processing system comprising:  
a display control unit (Figure 3 2) displaying processing target information in a predetermined display area (Figure 3 1);

a detection unit detecting a manipulation of changing a display block of the information displayed in the display area (Figure 3 21 Display Command Data Input & Interpret); and

a display information control unit getting the information displayed in the display area by changing an attribute in accordance with the detection of the changing manipulation (Figure 3 22 Executing Co-Ordinate Convert and 23 Executing Dots Convert).

45. As per claim 20, Goto demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 12, *supra*, and further discloses said display information control unit sets the attribute on the basis of a speed at which the display block is changed ("the size of a pattern is enlarged or reduced in accordance with the scrolling speed", column 9, line 56-57).

46. As per claim 23, Goto discloses a storage medium readable by a machine (Figure 3 3), tangible embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps comprising:

displaying information in a predetermined display area (Figure 3 1);  
detecting a manipulation of changing a display block of the information displayed in the display area (Figure 3 21 Display Command Data Input & Interpret); and  
displaying the information by changing an attribute in accordance with the detection of the changing manipulation (Figure 3 22 Executing Co-Ordinate Convert and 23 Executing Dots Convert).

47. As per claim 31, Goto demonstrated all the elements as applied to the rejection of independent claim 23, supra, and further discloses wherein the attribute is set based on a speed at which the display block is changed ("the size of a pattern is enlarged or reduced in accordance with the scrolling speed", column 9, line 56-57).

48. Claims 11, 22 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Shimizu (6,189,020).

As per claim 11, Shimizu discloses an information display method comprising:  
selecting a part of information from processing target information (Figure 1 6);  
calculating a size of the part of information (Figure 12 S121 "the real font size (real\_size) displayed on the screen is calculated from the font image size (orig\_size)", column 11, line 1-3); and

changing an attribute of the information, wherein if the size of the selected part of information exceeds a size with which the information can be displayed within a predetermined display area, the selected part of information is displayed within the display area by changing the attribute of the part of information or information in an area that contains this part of information (Figure S129 – S131 where searching for optimum



Art Unit: 2672

font includes changing the font size of the selected information to be displayed within the display area).

49. As per claim 22, Shimizu discloses an information processing system comprising:  
a manipulation unit (Figure 1 4) selecting a part of information from processing target information (Figure 1 6);

a calculation unit calculating a size of the part of information (Figure 12 S121 "the real font size (real\_size) displayed on the screen is calculated from the font image size (orig\_size)", column 11, line 1-3); and

an attribute changing unit changing an attribute of the information, wherein said attribute changing unit, if the size of the selected part of information exceeds a size with which the information can be displayed within a predetermined display area, gets the selected part of information displayed within the display area by changing the attribute of the part of information or information in an area that contains this part of information (Figure S129 – S131 where searching for optimum font includes changing the font size of the selected information to be displayed within the display area).

50. As per claim 33, Shimizu discloses a storage medium readable by a machine (Figure 1 1), tangible embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps comprising:

selecting a part of information from processing target information (Figure 1 6)

calculating a size of the part of information (Figure 12 S121 "the real font size (real\_size) displayed on the screen is calculated from the font image size (orig\_size)", column 11, line 1-3); and

changing an attribute of the information, wherein if the size of the selected part of information exceeds a size with which the information can be displayed within a predetermined display area, the selected part of information is displayed within the display area by changing the attribute of the part of information or information in an area that contain this part of information (Figure S129 – S131 where searching for optimum font includes changing the font size of the selected information to be displayed within the display area).

### ***Conclusion***

51. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

### ***Inquiries***

52. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Ryan Yang** whose telephone number is **(703) 308-6133**.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Michael Razavi**, can be reached at **(703) 305-4713**.

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231


Art Unit: 2672

**or faxed to:**

**(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)**

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.



Ryan Yang  
May 6, 2003